



For the Proprietor of  
HONGKONG TELEGRAPH,  
For and on behalf of  
SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.  
Printer and Publisher

TODAY'S WEATHER: Moderate Southeasterly winds; extensive  
clouds for night and early morning, partial clearance during the  
day. Rain or drizzle probable tonight.  
Noon Observations: Barometric pressure 1014.5 mbs., 29.00 in.  
Temperature 64.3 deg. F. Dew point 64 deg. F. Relative humidity 98.  
Wind direction East. Wind force 11 knots.  
High water: 7 ft. 1 in. at 8.07 p.m. Low water: 8 in. at 3.15  
a.m. (Saturday).

# The Hongkong Telegraph.

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VOL. IV NO. 46

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1949.

Price 20 Cents

## Plane Disaster Investigation

The Director of Civil Aviation (Mr A. J. R. Moss) this morning informed the Telegraph, in answer to questions, that investigation into the CPA plane crash has already started.

It will be a private inquiry, and will be attended by any person against whom a charge may be made, but any such person will have the right to ask questions.

Because the wreckage of the aircraft was so hot yesterday, Mr Moss was unable to carry out the necessary inspection, and he is going to the scene of the disaster today for this purpose.

## CRASHES ON TAKE-OFF

### 22 Persons Killed

Cuzco, Peru, Feb. 24.—Twenty-two persons were killed and two injured seriously when a Peruvian Air Force C-47 plane crashed on its take-off.

Twenty passengers, the pilot and the radio operator were killed. The co-pilot and mechanic escaped virtually unscathed.

The plane was being used to carry commercial passengers between Cuzco and Lima. The accident occurred when a tire blew off during the take-off, causing the plane to swerve.

A motor caught fire and the flames spread rapidly to the main gas tank, which exploded, enveloping the plane in flames.—United Press.

### U.S. AIRMAN KILLED

Frankfurt, Feb. 24.—An American airman was killed today in the third U.S. fighter plane crash in Germany in the last four days.

His plane, an F-80 jet "Shooting Star," fell about 16 miles southeast of Heidelberg.—Associated Press.

### Makes Gift Of Bacon

Auckland, Feb. 24.—The carcasses of the world's record bacon litter of 15 pigs, weighing a ton and a half, killed recently at Auckland, are to be given by the owners, a bacon company, to the people of Britain. They will provide one week's ration for 25,000 people.—Reuter.

### EDITORIAL

## The Hotels Ordinance

WEDNESDAY'S Council debate on the Hotels Ordinance was conventional enough, and rather colourless. Sir Man Kam Lo, who opposed the measure argued on principles, but seemed unwilling to appreciate circumstances capable of qualifying those principles. That it has been necessary to apply controls to the hotel trade is generally deplored; but the necessity cannot be ignored. Both Mr Chau and Mr Cassidy forcefully emphasised the circumstances which made it imperative for the Hotels Rates Advisory Committee to recommend allocation of hotel accommodation for Hongkong residents at controlled rates and Government would have been remiss if it had denied those exigencies and refused to incorporate the recommendation in the Ordinance. We observed at the time the Advisory Committee's report was made, public that it represented a fair compromise—an acceptable endeavour to meet and solve a chronic problem. We still hold that view. But, as Mr Cassidy pointed out, some of the provisions will not be easy to put into effect and because certain anomalies are certain to arise, the assurance made by the Attorney General that Government will closely watch how the Ordinance operates in practice, is welcome. In the determination to argue along general lines, the debaters lost sight of certain specific points which deserved some attention. For example, the Government spokesman made no reference to the five amendments to the Ordinance, each of which goes some way toward meeting earlier criticisms. The amendments include concessions to the hotels

## SOUTH HAMMERSMITH HELD BY LABOUR

## Majority Down To 1,613

## HEAVY VOTING IN BYE-ELECTION

London, Feb. 24.—Labour retained its House of Commons seat for the drab West London district of South Hammersmith in a bye-election regarded as a straw vote for the next national elections.

Mr Tom Williams (Labour) polled 15,223 votes against 13,610 for the Conservative candidate, Mr Anthony Fell.

Labour's majority, however, was reduced to 1,613 as compared with the 3,458 by which it took the seat in the 1945 general elections.

With today's victory, Labour successfully defended 31 Commons seats in bye-elections since it took office in 1945. So important was the South Hammersmith election regarded that Labour and Conservative leaders from Mr Attlee and Mr Churchill down campaigned actively for their men.

Official returns showed that about 70 percent of the electorate voted, compared with 65 per cent in the 1945 general elections.

In the 1945 general election, the South Hammersmith division figures were:

W. T. Adams (Labour) 12,502; Douglas Cooke (Conservative) 9,044. In yesterday's bye-election, therefore, Labour increased its vote by 1,721 and the Conservatives by 4,566. —United Press.

### POLLING SCENES

London, Feb. 24.—Vans with blaring loudspeakers toured the streets of Hammersmith, the riverside borough in West London, from early morning till after midnight to-day urging electors to vote in a Parliamentary bye-election which has attracted exceptional interest.

Thirty Labour Members of Parliament, who have each won a Parliamentary bye-election since the general election of 1945, demonstrated a still smouldering wreckage of the ill-fated Cathay Pacific Airways C47 Dakota aircraft which crashed on Mount Butler yesterday on the banks of the Braemar Reservoir. Nineteen passengers and a crew of four lost their lives in one of the Colony's worst air disasters. —Photograph by Staff Photographer.

Today's candidates are a former Baptist Minister, Mr Tom Williams, for Labour, and a New Zealander, Mr Anthony Fell, for the Conservatives. Mr Fell is an engineer.

The southern part of Hammersmith, which forms the constituency in question, is traditionally Conservative, but was captured by Labour by a relatively small majority in 1945. This time a very close result is forecast, with the odds slightly in favour of a Labour win.

The voting opened slowly this morning in shower weather but in the afternoon a steady stream of voters suggested a heavy poll. The 30 Labour Members of Parliament, in their capacity as Labour's "Assault Force," flaunted the slogan: "We have all the winners."—Reuter.

### ZILLIACUS REPUDIATED

London, Feb. 24.—The National Executive of the Labour Party has declined to endorse the Labour Member of Parliament, Mr K. Zilliacus, as a candidate for the general election, it was officially announced tonight.

Mr Zilliacus, outspoken advocate of co-operation with Russia, is Labour Member for Gateshead, industrial city in north-eastern England.

He was one of the signatories last year of the telegram of good wishes to Signor Pietro Nenni, leader of the then Communist-allied Italian Socialist Party.

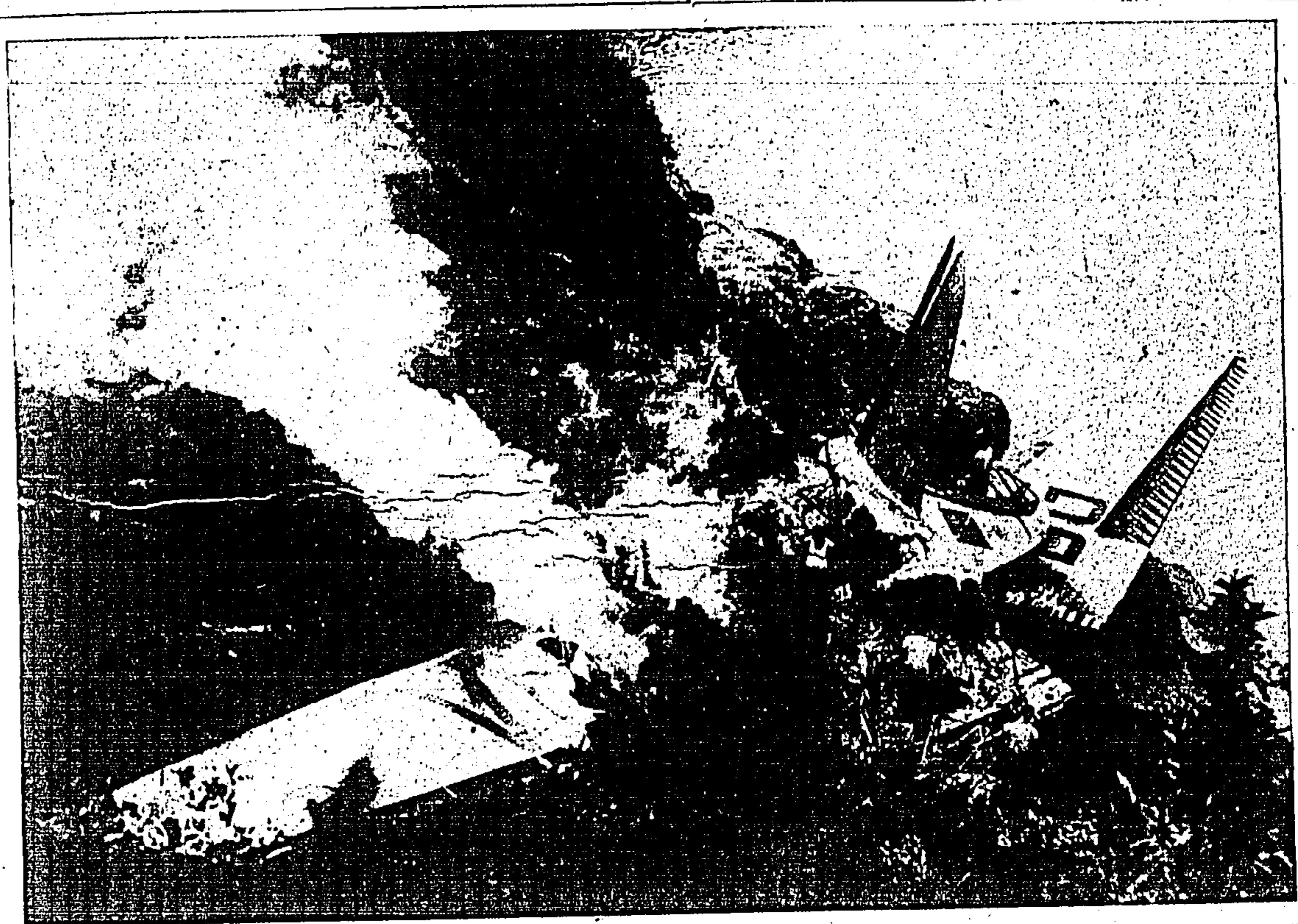
It is expected that the Party will also refuse to support a number of other left-wing Labour Members of Parliament at the 1950 election. No extensive purge, however, is expected.—Reuter.

## The King Better

London, Feb. 24.—King George VI appeared in better health today when he arrived at Buckingham Palace after his six-weeks holiday at Sandringham, his Norfolk estate. He had a very slight limp as he walked to the car which awaited him at King's Cross Station.

At the end of last year, the King had to cancel his projected tour of Australia and New Zealand because of an affection of the leg arteries. His first big official engagement since his illness will be at Buckingham Palace next Tuesday, when he holds an investiture.

He will remain seated during the ceremony.—Reuter.



This graphic picture shows the still smouldering wreckage of the ill-fated Cathay Pacific Airways C47 Dakota aircraft which crashed on Mount Butler yesterday on the banks of the Braemar Reservoir. Nineteen passengers and a crew of four lost their lives in one of the Colony's worst air disasters. —Photograph by Staff Photographer.

## Commons Again Discusses Hongkong

### WAR DAMAGES COMPENSATION AND THE AIRPORT

London, Feb. 24.—Throughout the Far East there were people who had lost everything during the Japanese occupation but no single individual in any country had yet received a cent in compensation, Mr Leonard Gaemans, Conservative, declared in the House of Commons today.

He asked if any of the £1,000,000 which Britain was giving Hongkong would be used to compensate individuals.

The Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr David Rees Williams, replied that various Far East territories which suffered enemy occupation were all asked to consider schemes. The Hongkong Government decided they would not have one.

The Government could not be expected to force a war damage scheme on them.

### AN "IMPERIAL SCANDAL"

Mr Lennox Boyd, Conservative, urged that substantial sums should be spent on the Hongkong airport which he described as "an imperial scandal" but when asked if anything would be done about building another airport, Mr Rees Williams shook his head.

Asked what action Britain had taken to ensure that capital funds moved into Hongkong following recent events in China, Mr Glenville Hall, for the Treasury, replied that no action had been taken by the British Government nor, so far as he was aware, by the Hongkong Government.

"Even were it desirable to impose a control of this kind, I doubt whether it could be enforced effectively," he said.

Asked about the possibility of importing Chinese labour into Borneo and Sarawak, Mr Rees Williams doubted whether this would be a good thing. "We have this matter continually under review, but our first consideration is

### One Man's Drink Is Des Moines' Poison

Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 24.—A bill requiring all liquor sold in Iowa be labelled with the skull and crossbones and marked "poison" has been introduced in the State Legislature.

The measure is called "an Act to protect the youth of the State of Iowa against the use of liquor." One section of the bill also would require liquor labels to carry the words "antidotes; pour contents of this bottle in the sewer and place the bottle in the ashcan."—Reuter.

## Yesterday's Plane Crash

## COLONY GIVEN PAT ON BACK

London, Feb. 24.—British traders in the Far East should not pull down on themselves an "iron curtain" of their own making, Mr Walter Fletcher, the rubber merchant Conservative Member of Parliament, who flies to Singapore next Wednesday, said in London today.

Praising British commercial interests in Hongkong for "keeping their heads" over the new regime in North China, Mr Fletcher told Reuter: "By so doing, they have gained prestige which Britain has not had in that part of the world for many years. Trade has opened up again. The Chinese, whether Communist or not, are always interested in doing business and making money."

"At this moment, we ought not to try and assess the outcome of things and which side we ought to back. Instead, we ought to seek to establish some sort of decent footing with the de facto government."—Reuter.

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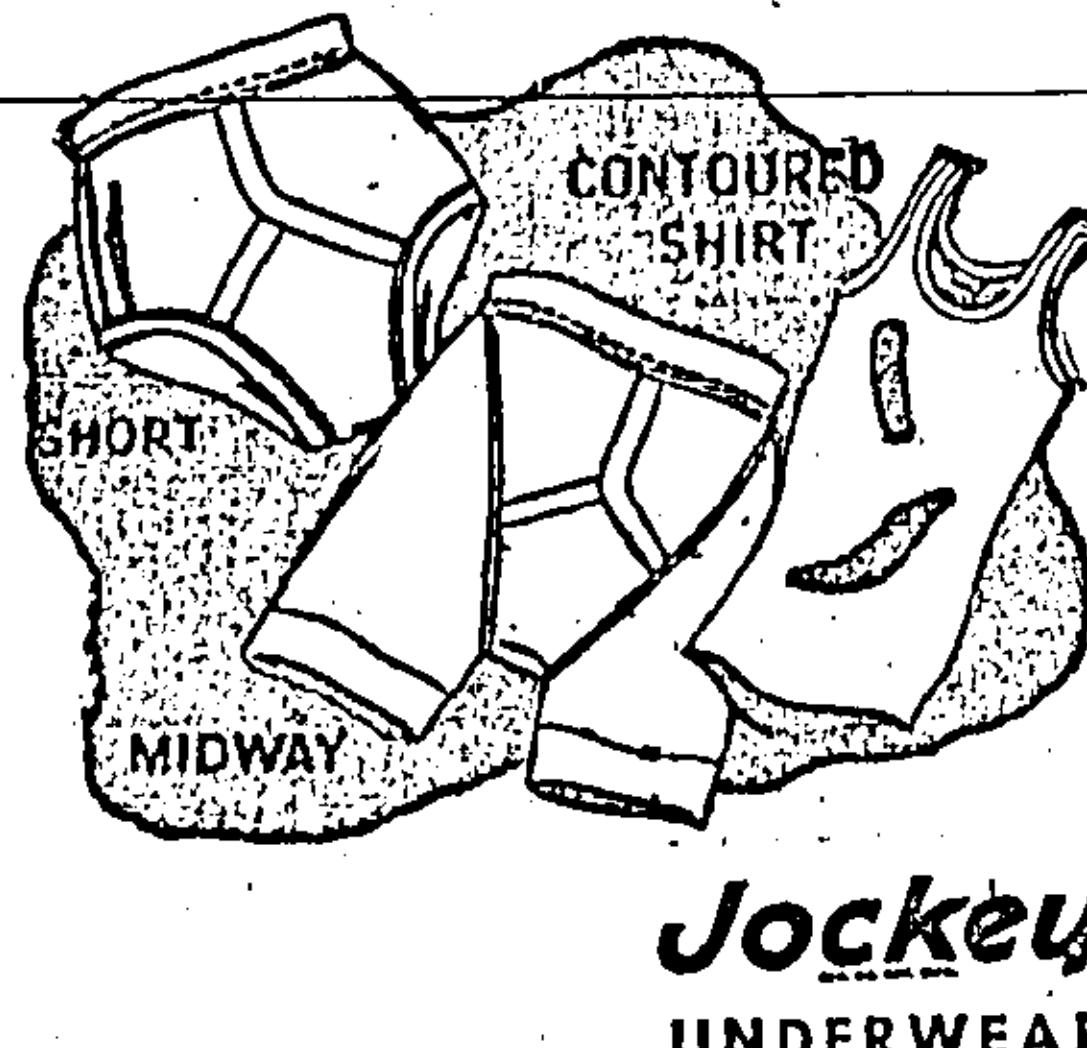
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Cleanse and Soften Your Skin This Way  
Cream Cleanse—swirl Pond's Cold Cream all over your face to soften and sweep off dirt and make-up. Tissue off.

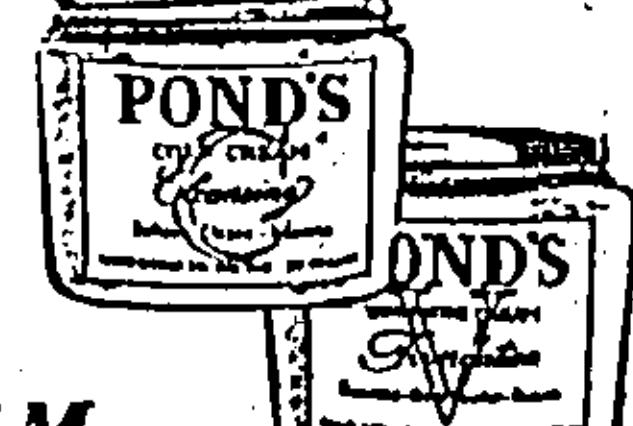
Cream Rinse—swirl more Pond's—to rinse off last traces of dirt, leave skin soft and immaculate. Tissue off.

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## WOMANSENSE

### First Sprayed With Perfume... And Then... Dior Had Them Nearly Hysterical

By ANNE EDWARDS

PARIS.

ONE hour before the start of the Fashion Show, the queues stretched from the salon down the wide, grey-carpeted stairs, through the crystal-chandeliered ground floor and down the elegant Avenue Montaigne.

Those waiting in the cold noticed that Mr Dior had his initials in stunted box hedges in the front gardens, had decorated his windows with enormous bows of artificial flowers surrounded by white frames.

Step by step the most favoured clients inched their way into the grey-panelled room.

They admired the 6 foot-high arrangements of crimson camellias, lilies of the valley, palms, and crimson arum lilies, and took a last look through the 18 foot-high windows, draped with grey satin.

New Line

Half an hour later the windows were closed, the rooms sprayed with the master's latest perfume ("Miss Dior"—£3 an ounce), the fourteen vendeuses stood at strategic positions to rapt anyone linking a sketch.

All was set for the Dior Collection—the show all the fashion world has been waiting for. The collection opened quietly with a frock in gun check suitting, tube skirted and lightly belted, worn with a loose capote and a workman's hat—all in the same material.

#### SPRING GREETING



This inexpensive spring frock in pink and gray striped material with mid-calf length skirt, bowtie neck and slim belted waist was seen at a recent West End show.



CHRISTIAN DIOR

By 11.30 (1½ hour after the start) the new Dior line was clear. Round, bold shoulders: Illusory full skirt (usually loose panel or half skirt); buttoned over narrow under-skirt; hem 15 inches from the ground, and waist so tight that one model's belt burst.

From time to time particularly sensational frocks were greeted with applause and "bravos."

Among the spell-binders were a white ermine day coat with enormous

inverted pleats at the back: a frock in coarse canvas covered from head to foot with small flax flowers in pink, blue, and mauve; an evening dress in crinoline, straw frilled from neck to hem with iridescent sequins.

At 11.40 Mr Dior—no doubt feeling that he had the house with him—made a personal appearance, escorting a valuable client to her seat. Loud applause.

One hour more of sensational frocks, brilliant colours, startling new cuts, reduced half of the French audience almost to an emotional hysteria.

#### Old Tradition

Among the original designs which captivated them were: knee-length tulle dresses, very full, with tight shoulder-strapped bodices... afternoon frocks cut to the knee in front and ankle-length at the back... evening dresses in alpaca, straw, linen, tussore, nylon mesh—all heavily embroidered with silk, lamp-shade fringes, diamonds, and darning wool.

At 1 p.m. it all ended with the traditional bribe: this one heavily embroidered with pearls and wearing a Mary Queen of Scots cap.

Mr Dior was at the door to receive congratulations from the 600 visitors, who shook his hand, covered him with lipstick on both cheeks, showed him with superlatives: "Magnificent; ravishing; irresistible."

Mr Dior, a little panda of a man, gave his deprecating smile.

#### Britain Bent On Mending Broken Homes

BRITAIN is tackling the job of mending broken homes in the same practical spirit that she is setting about the rebuilding of her factories and cities. To this end, volunteer "marriage counsellors", trained and supported by the State, have been recommended by a Home Office Committee in a recent report on the development of marriage guidance.

Some of the most fundamental problems which face every country after war, with its attendant strain and separations, are those of domestic and family re-adjustment, and these problems may often be solved by sympathetic and expert advice. The report emphasises, however, that such work can only be done by carefully picked men and women who are themselves emotionally stable and who have undergone a highly specialised training.

#### Government Expenses

Three bodies exist in Britain which have already done much valuable work of this kind. These are the National Marriage Guidance Council, the Catholic Marriage Advisory Council and the Family Welfare Association. The Committee now proposes that their experience should be pooled to plan a joint training scheme, the whole cost of which, it is suggested, should be borne by the Government for an experimental period of five years.

That the organisations should nominate nine representatives to a body which would supervise schemes for selecting and training the "Marriage Counsellors" is another plea put forward in the report. If these proposals are adopted, says the Committee, the Home Secretary would be entitled to appoint a chairman, and the Ministers of Health and Education one member each.

About 2,284,000,000 pounds of soap was used in the United States last year, the largest amount since 1941. Reports for the first third of this year indicated an annual consumption of 2,448,000,000 pounds.

#### Efficiency Varieties

Miss Furry reported that soap was more efficient than all but one type of synthetic detergent when soft water was used. But when the laundry was done in hard water, some of the synthetic detergents were twice as good at rinsing the dirt as most of the soaps.

The test will be continued on coloured cottons and on woolen and rayon materials.

Officials said soap manufacturers are now producing synthetic detergents at the rate of about 400,000,000 pounds a year. Other manufacturers, particularly chemical companies, also produce substantial quantities, figures for which were not available.

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#### New Chemical May Oust Soap

WASHINGTON

The housewife's old ally, soap, may have to surrender a large share of its popularity to other chemical compounds, as the Agricultural Department experiments show.

The department's textile chemists have been trying to find out what kind of laundering job various kinds of soap will do compared with synthetic detergents. Comparatively new on the market, synthetic detergents are laboratory-developed compounds that remove dirt the same way soap does. About half have a petroleum base.

Miss Margaret Furry of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, directed the experiments. Fifty-one different granulated and bar soaps and synthetic detergents were used on white cotton fabric soiled with an oil-grease-dirt combination.

**Government Expenses**

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The test

## WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



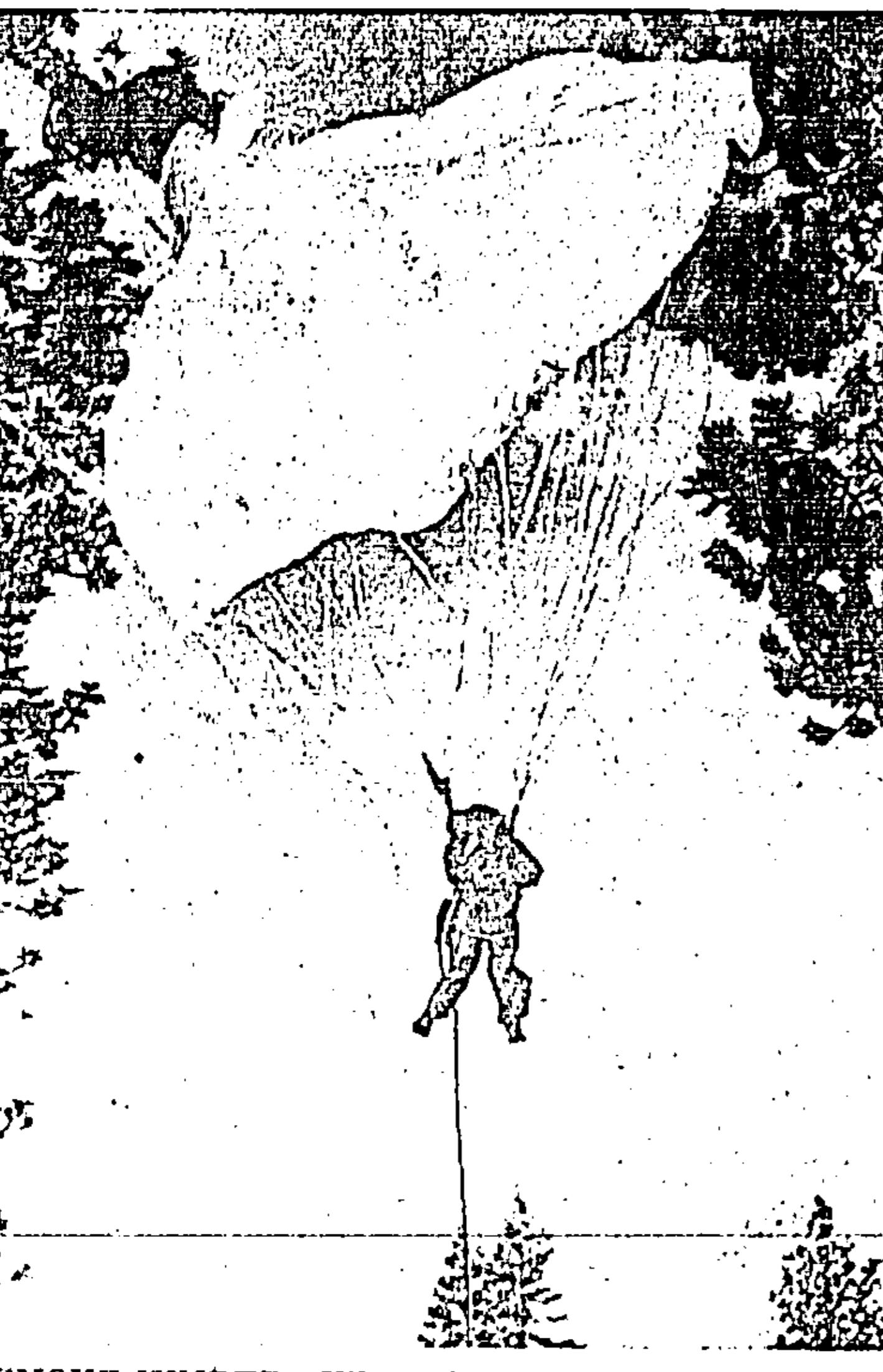
WRECKAGE—A fire in St Louis left this factory a shambles. The damage amounted to over US\$135,000, the blaze completely gutting the buildings of the tool and die company and destroying all its machinery.



CHRISTENING—Not feeling very pleased about her christening is Sophie, daughter of Mina Orlogides, of Cairo, as Prince Michel Loufallah makes the sign of the cross. Bishop Babylonos Ilarion, patriarchal representative in Cairo, immerses her in the baptismal font.



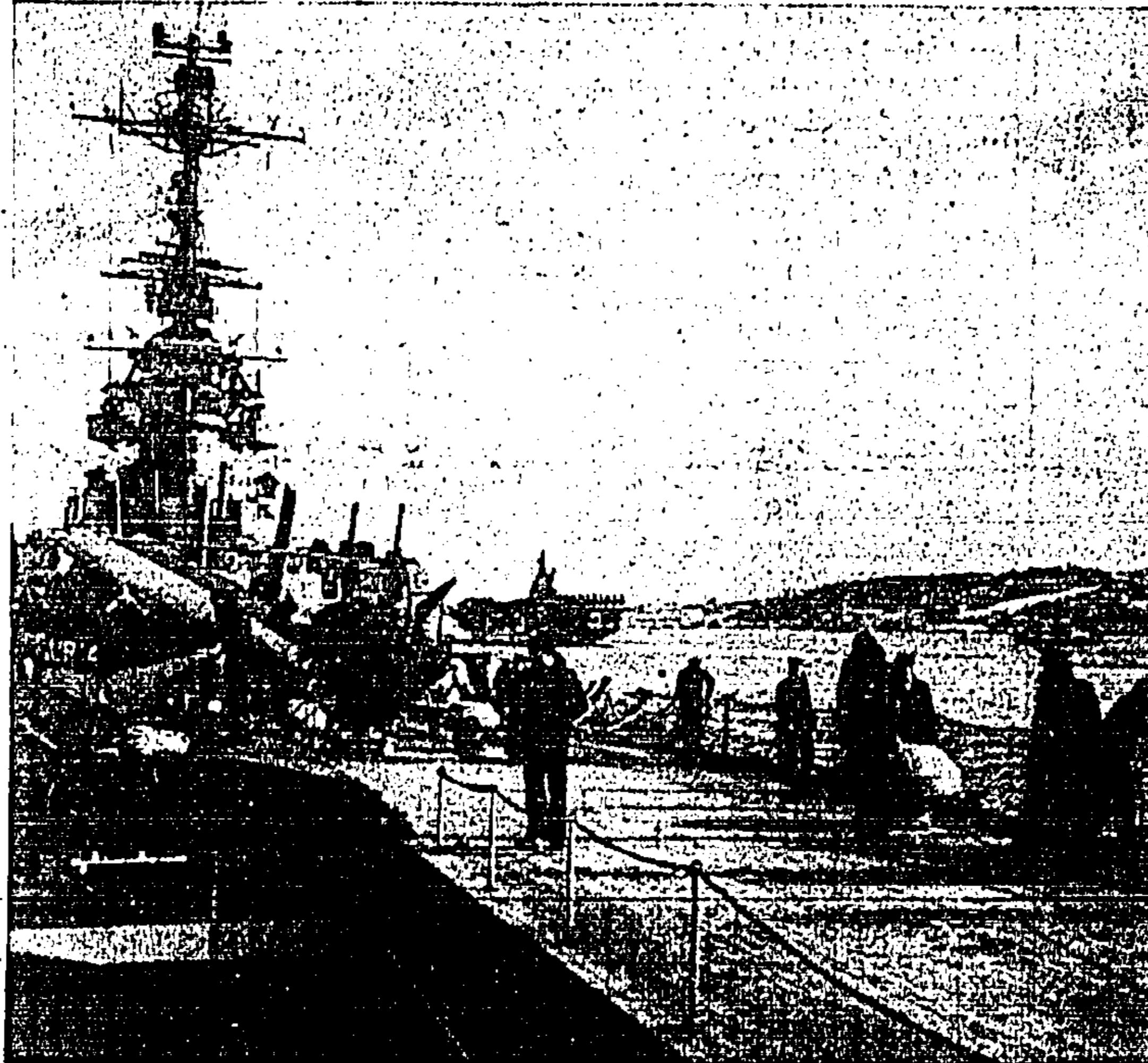
FIRE-FIGHTING—After fire broke out in Webster Hall, famous 86-year-old recreation centre in New York City, only the walls remained. The damage has been estimated at US\$100,000. Equipment from every fire station in the city saved surrounding buildings.



SMOKE-JUMPER—When forest fires break out in inaccessible areas of the United States, specially trained men are flown to the scene and dropped by parachute to fight the flames. Suspended between two trees, this Forest Service parachutist is about to lower himself to the ground by rope.



BEACH-WEAR—Actress Gale Storm wears a neat two-piece swim and play suit in this Hollywood pose.



VISITING—Units of the United States Navy arrive at Istanbul, Turkey, for a courtesy visit. This photo of the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Tarawa entering Istanbul Harbour was taken from the deck of the heavy cruiser Columbus. The Tarawa was recently in Hongkong.



SUGAR FOR BRITAIN—John Strachey, left, British Minister of Food, watches the unloading at London docks of the first bags of sugar to be shipped under the Marshall Plan.



HURRIED EXIT—In Paris, the underground is as crowded as it is in London. But when the driver of this car lost control, the rush hour hadn't begun and only he and a fellow passenger were hurt as it fell into the Trinité entrance to the tube. Curious Parisians gathered about the scene of the accident and watched a huge crane hoist the car out of the way.



TRUE ART—This young lady is painting a plate at the Faenza school of ceramic art in Italy. An established school of world renown, its pupils must know the ingredients of the chemicals used. Paints cannot fade when washed in hot water.

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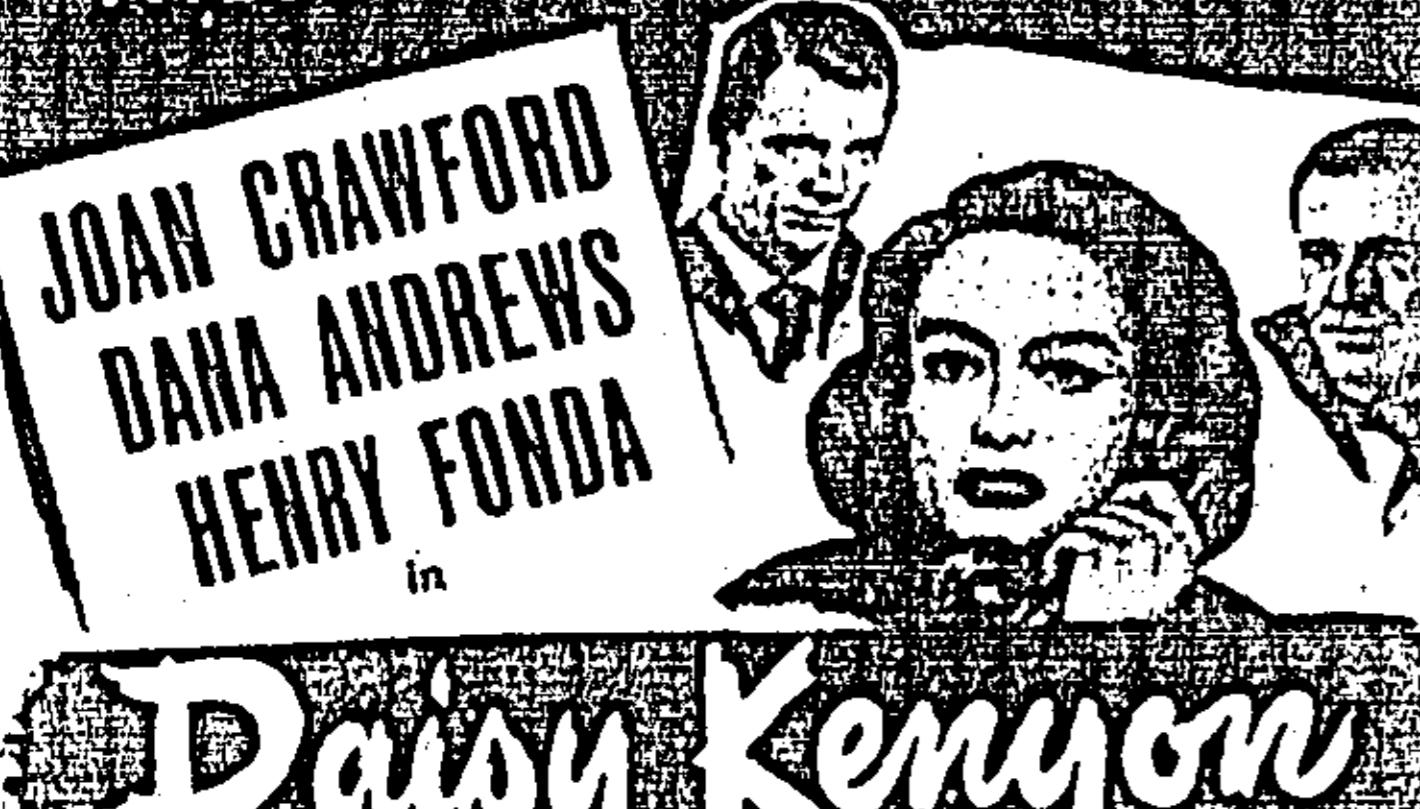
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AT 11.30 A.M.

A SUPER USSR PRODUCTION

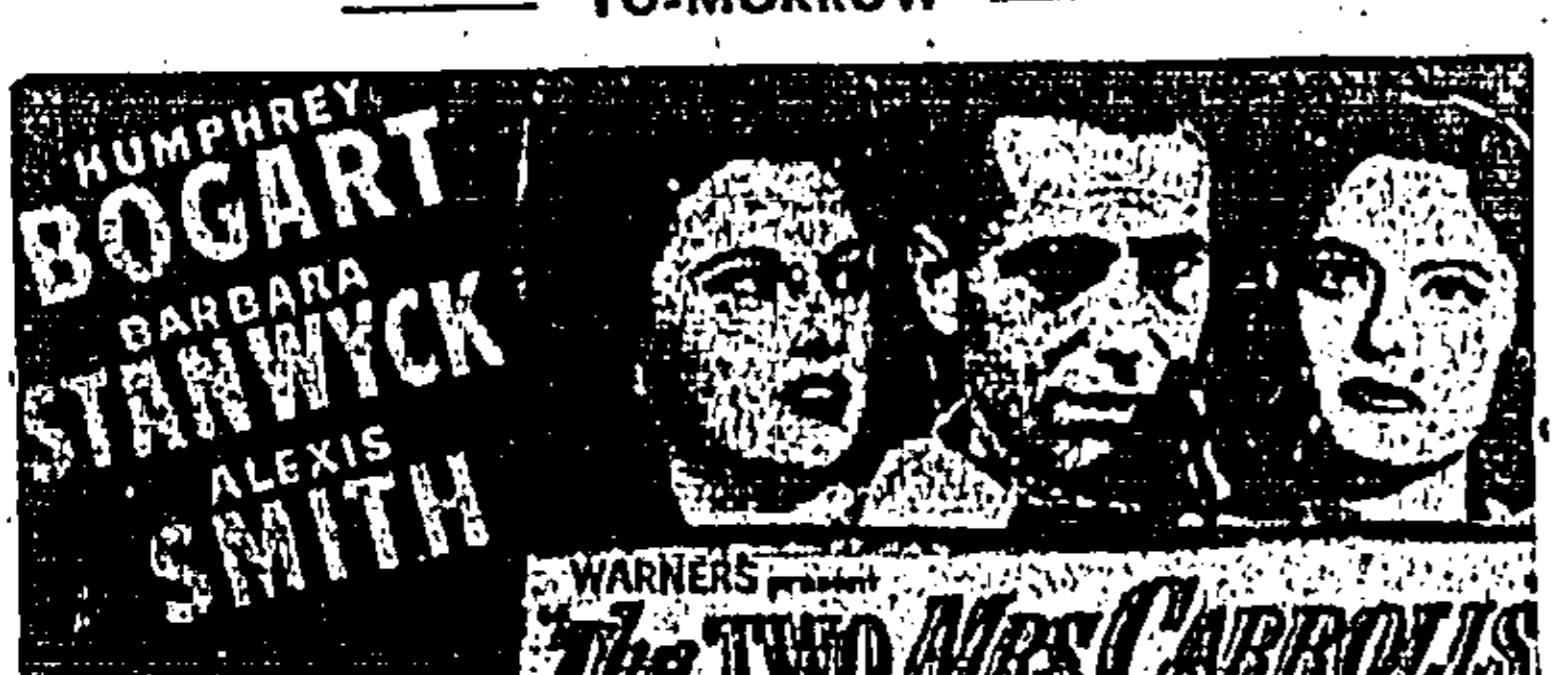
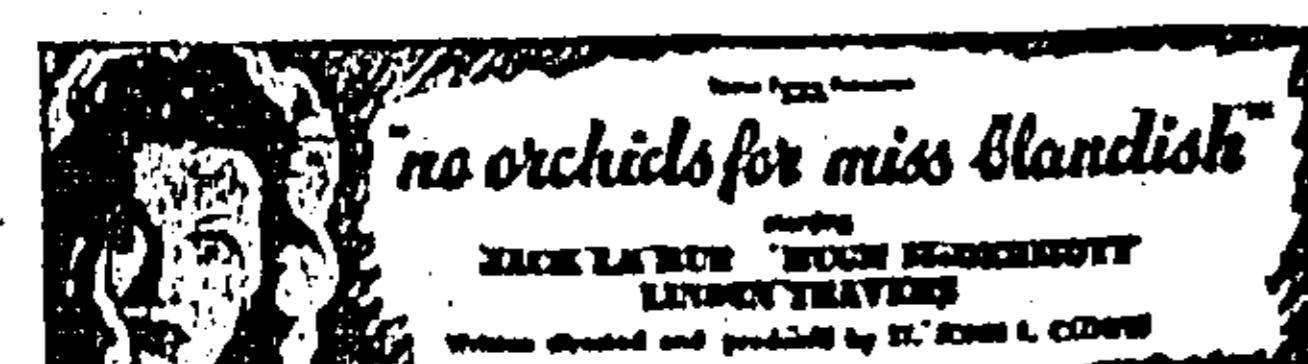
**"STONE FLOWER"**

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR WITH ENGLISH SUB-TITLES

Jordan Rd.  
Kowloon  
Tel. 50333**LIBERTY**2 Mins. From  
the Yaumati  
Ferry

FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 &amp; 9.20 P.M.

MYSTERY! SUSPENSE! TEMPTATION THAT DESTROYS!

Coming To The **ORIENTAL**  
THE FILM THEY SAID COULD NEVER  
BE MADE!

AN INTERNATIONAL RELEASE



"Oh, dear—why do people tuck so many things away in the attic and forget all about them?"

**WAR ON WAX**

NEW YORK.

SOMEONE gave me a gramophone for Christmas. It is beautiful, but as a gramophone it is already just a piece of period furniture. For the truth is that in America any gramophone you buy today is as likely as not to be obsolete tomorrow.

What the scientists call electronics and what the average American calls gimmicks (a word for anything tricky that is not quite understood) have moved too fast for the gramophone as we knew it.

Today it is caught up in a revolution which, by coincidence, is all over revolutions per minute. The music still goes round and round—although even that may not last much longer—but at different speeds now.

Because of it, the American who would play all the records he can buy must have three different gramophones, or a tool-kit as extensive as a plumber's, plus a copy of *How To Be A Home Electrician*.

L.P. (which stands for long-playing) started the revolution. Given a large enough selection, the public would buy nothing but Columbia records to avoid the nuisance of changing the gadget.

So out came the advertisements the other day for L.P. Junior—a 7in. unbreakable microgroove record which would play as much as the conventional 12in. record and cost 3s. instead of the usual 3s. 9d.

L.P. arrived with its own new technical name—microgroove. There are 300, instead of just a hundred, grooves for every inch of recording surface. The record goes round at half-speed—33-1/3 times per minute, instead of the normal 78.

This, with the smaller grooves, gives a record which will play 45 minutes of continuous music. A whole symphony or concerto plays without any stops and flops of record changing. A complete opera is delivered on four 12-in. records.

THE COST—24s. for a 12-in. classical record, 14s. for a 10-in. record with six to eight jazz tunes on it.

BUT there was a snag. L.P. could be played on conventional gramophones only if a special attachment was used. And the special attachment cost £7 10s.

Mr. Folsom answered, in effect, "Nonsense!" But if neutral in the fight tells me the industry is expecting to keep the two giants knock each other's brains out.

While they are busy doing just that, still another revolution may break out. For there is a new competitor in sight—the wire recorder. Steel with a memory, as the advertisements say.

Which is why nearly 1,800,000 gramophones are gathering dust in American shops right now.

Which is why in almost every American home today you hear a rather hoarse Bing Crosby singing "Just one of those things."

But L.P. paid off. In just three months Columbia sold a million and a half attachments. Quietly, Columbia set their engineers to work producing a single-tune microgroove record.

The idea was ingenious. Given a large enough selection, the public would buy nothing but Columbia records to avoid the nuisance of changing the gadget.

There are a dozen different wire recorders, but they all use the same principle—recording sound on a spool of magnetized steel wire or tape not quite as big as a bath bun.

That means that more than an hour's music can be played without interruption—millions of times over with no noticeable loss of quality.

At present, wire recorders are being used mostly for "sound diaries" of children, for recording broadcasts, and for making amateur talkies.

BUT one company is waiting only to overcome the wire recorder's chief drawback—the difficulty of finding whatever part of a spool the owner wants to play—before marketing the first gramophone in which the music does not even go round and round.

American's gramophone revolution, like most revolutions, has produced chaos. Paul Puner, who usually sells more records than anyone else in New York, put it this way: "These new gimmicks have loused up the whole picture, but good."

What he meant was this. The public are befuddled. The 12 million people who own beautiful pieces of period furniture like mine are going to stay satisfied with them until someone brings out a model which will play every known kind of record again.

And those 12 million people, like me, are going to stay satisfied with their present library of records until they know that they are not wasting their money buying up museum pieces.

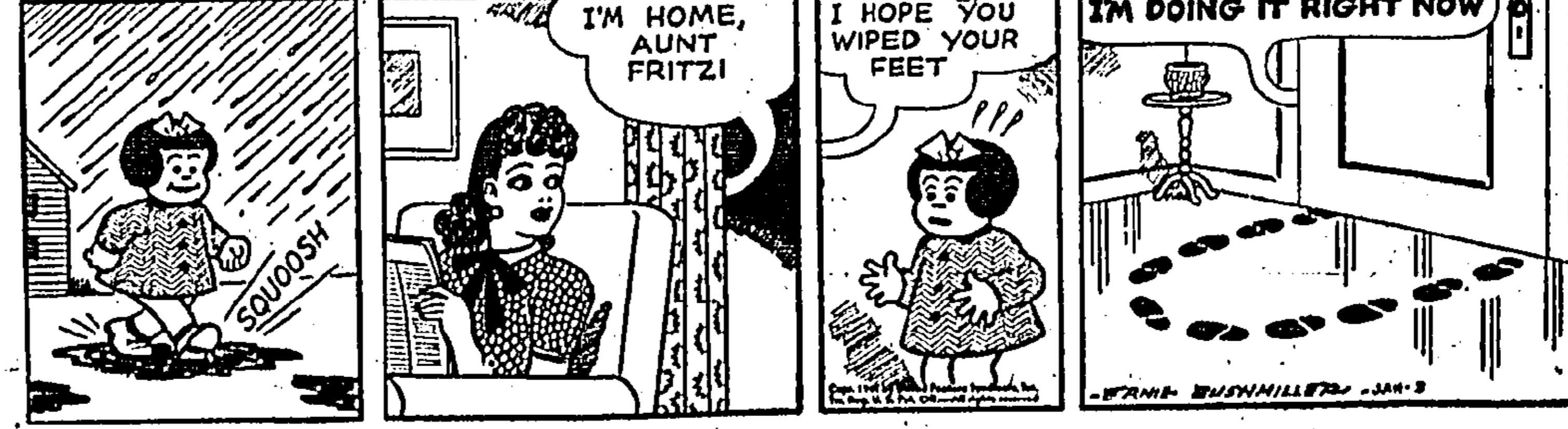
Which is why nearly 1,800,000 gramophones are gathering dust in American shops right now.

Which is why in almost every American home today you hear a rather hoarse Bing Crosby singing "Just one of those things."

I'M HOME, AUNT FRITZI

I HOPE YOU WIPE YOUR FEET

I'M DOING IT RIGHT NOW

**NEED WE BLOW  
STALIN A  
RASPBERRY?**

by JOHN GORDON

IT seems to me that we are not being very clever in our dealings with Stalin.

Yet millions of lives, perhaps even the survival of the civilised world, hang on the hair thread of whether we and Stalin can find some way to rub along together.

It's an awesome thought, isn't it?

Now, we all agree that Stalin is a tough old ogre to deal with. But we must also admit that some find us and the Americans pretty tough dealers as well.

It may be true, as some say, that you cannot always accept Russia's word as her honest bond. But do not let us forget that we have some motives in our own eye.

**OUR ACES.**

There is, for instance, the little matter of Poland. We went to war rightly, if perhaps a little foolishly, pledged to restore the freedom of Poland.

Before the war had ended we—and America—according to the Polish version, sold Poland to Stalin over the heads of the Poles, because it suited our purpose.

The consequences of that deal have been very tragic for many, many Poles, although it's only inconvenience to us, so far, has been that it has robbed us of a place to which we could send the engaging Mr. Stanley.

Between us, we and America probably hold the ace cards of war at the moment. But time doesn't stand still. We may not hold these aces long.

We have two alternatives facing us. We either accept the theory that a mighty clash in which Britain would be involved is inevitable between the U.S. and Russia—who, with the full of China, looks like controlling 50 percent of the population of the world.

Or we try to reach a working agreement on some basis that permits a measure of enduring amity.

**FOR UNITY**

I think the first alternative is so heinous, so horrible, so stark mad, that if our half of the human race accept it then we deserve destruction. I cannot conceive that the ordinary peace-loving people of Britain and America are as insane as that.

We are thus left with the alternative of trying slowly but honestly to establish a basis of agreement.

Now, we all agree that striving to reach a basis of working unity with the 13 supreme rulers of Russia is just about as difficult as teaching London Bridge to turn round at sunset.

But let me emphasise that by agreement I do not mean appeasement. If Stalin merely wants us to throw him a juicy bone or two, we can assure him with all bluntness that the Munich days are over.

**UNORTHODOX**

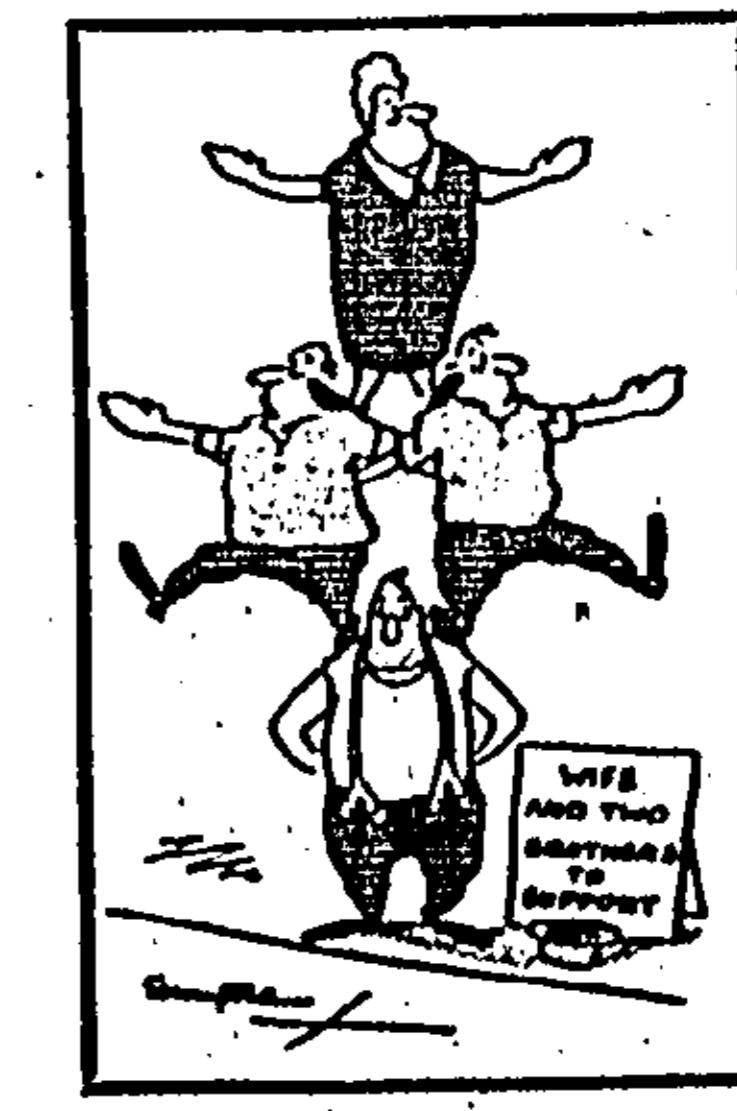
What is making our diplomatic gentlemen so unhappy over Stalin's gesture? Apparently the fact that his way of approach was unorthodox. He did not send it through the usual channels nicely set out in a letter beginning "Honoured Sirs" and ending "Your obedient servant."

Is unorthodoxy a cardinal sin so heinous that it can never be countenanced?

Truman will not go to Warsaw. Stalin will not go to Washington.

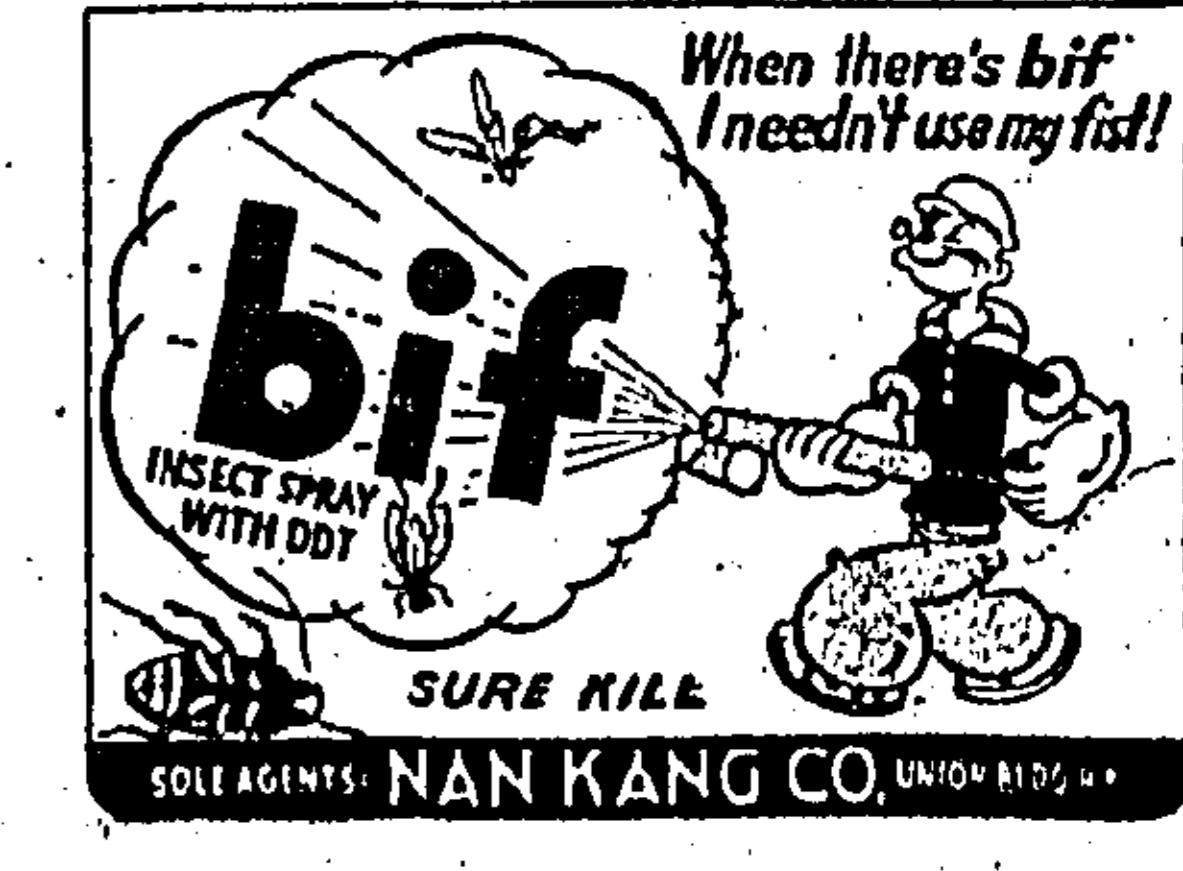
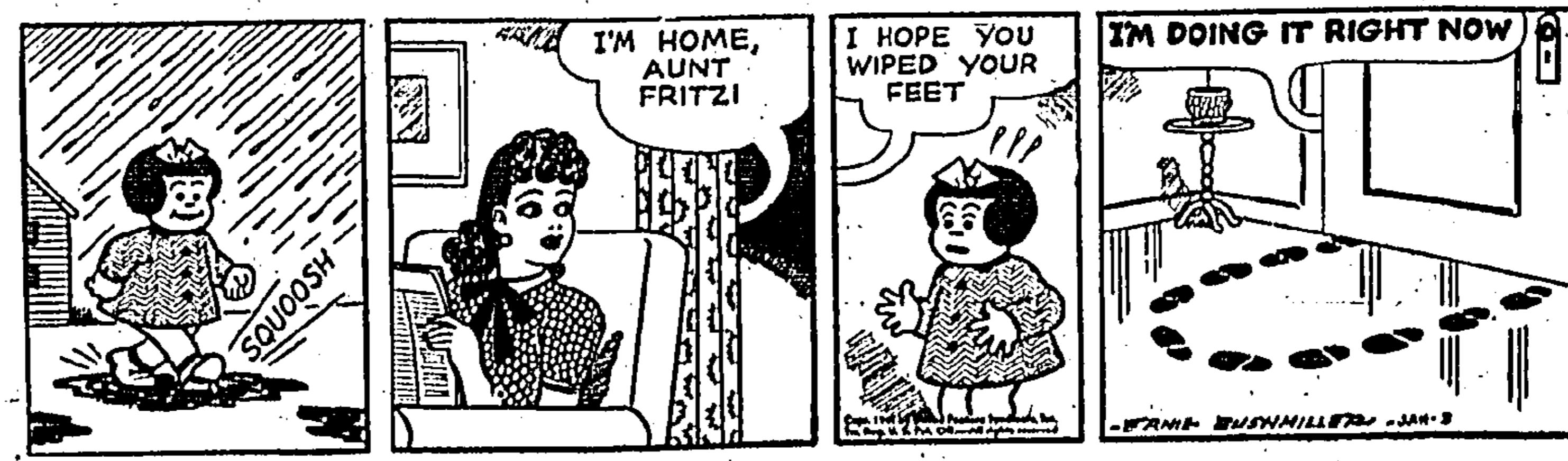
Can't we intervene and offer a location which both could agree upon without loss of dignity. Isn't it worth trying?

Surely dignity and orthodoxy are not of more vital importance than peace?

**POCKET CARTOON**

NANCY Change of Pace

By Ernie Bushmiller



# JUDGMENT FOR PLAINTIFF IN WOO CASE

## Purchaser's "Good Bargain"

Judgment for plaintiff was delivered by the Chief Justice, Sir Leslie Gibson, at the Supreme Court this morning in the action brought by the Shui Hing Company, 187-195 Des Voeux Road Central, against the solicitor, Hangkan Kwantung Woo, of Messrs Woo and Woo, Prince's Building, for specific performance of an agreement for the sale of No. 48 Kennedy Road and that Woo execute a proper conveyance of the property.

The plaintiff, Liu Lan-fung, alias Liu Ah-lan, widow of Koo Shui-ting, alias Koo Wan-shing, was represented by Mr H. G. Sheldon, KC and Mr D. A. L. Wright, instructed by Mr E. S. C. Brooke (Hastings), while the Hon. Leo d'Almada, KC and Mr Brook A. Bernacchi, were instructed by Mr Woo.

Giving judgment, the Chief Justice said:

In this action the plaintiff, Liu Lan-fung alias Liu Ah-lan, widow of Koo Shui-ting, alias Koo Wan Sing, claims specific performance of an agreement dated August 18, 1943 and made between her late husband, Mr. K. K. Woo and the defendant by the defendant in his house No. 48 Kennedy Road.

The agreement was executed on behalf of the defendant by Mr. Chan, his attorney, in Free China, whether he had gone by reason of circumstances created by the Japanese invasion of the Hongkong. The agreement specifies the purchase price for the payment on the date of the agreement of 50,000 yen on account of the purchase price was paid by the defendant, and is acknowledged by endorsement on the agreement. The purchase was to be completed within a month, but time was not of essence of the agreement.

### EVIDENCE DOUBTED

What was the payment of the purchase price accepted in yen—was it paid in cash or by draft? Durian and undue influence are alleged but even Chan Un Chau's evidence that as I have indicated I am not prepared to accept him as complete and reliable in evidence of undue influence. Mr. P. Y. Woo gave the parties legal advice that they clearly knew what they signed (agreement for sale) and Koo said nothing. Then again, if the purchaser had been guilty of the dishonesty alleged why is it that the defendant, himself, a very experienced lawyer, was willing to pass unchallenged a statement in Koo Un Chau's letter of October, 1943, that the price was "50,000 yen in military notes equivalent to 272,000 in Hongkong currency" and why is it that neither defendant nor his attorney (or a lawyer) ever put in writing the allegation that the purchase price should have been paid in dollars until May, 1948?

The suggestion is that the vendor was being discussed unfairly and had been referred to a court. Perhaps it is not enough to explain that the vendor was not in fact the mortgagee but in military notes outstanding in respect of the mortgages which had been in military form and English form and the English purchaser were executed in English, Chinese and Japanese form. For some reason the transaction was not carried to completion by registration, either with the Japanese authorities or under the British law of Hongkong, and the defendant's case is that by reason of sections 9 and 11 of the Debtor and Creditor (Occupation Period) Ordinance, 1948, the mortgagee, drawn on the plaintiff, had been discharged.

### PLEA ABANDONED

It is pleaded on behalf of the plaintiff that by a letter (written on 30 October, 1943) the defendant ratified the sale of the property, putting aside for the plaintiff the right to sue for the costs of the hearing.

The defendant has sought to meet the plaintiff's claim by a number of defenses with which he must be familiar. The leading ones, on behalf of the defendant, are as follows: that the defense was amended in less than three times—once before the hearing, and twice during the hearing, I can only assume that this was a plea of not being heard; that the defendant was allowed and must be considered accordingly.

Among the amendments was an allegation that defendant had been induced by certain correspondence "with fraudulent intention." The nature of the fraudulent intention was neither pleaded nor apparent. This was denied and evidence adduced in the allegation and Mr. d'Almada, who led for the defendant, properly and wisely abandoned this line of defense. Allegations of fraud are not lightly to be made.

That is the point on which the plaintiff's claim is challenged in that the real agreement between the parties was that the purchase price should be 50,000 yen, the equivalent of 272,000 dollars, and that the payments made by the purchaser did not constitute the true value of the property, the true value being required to comply with Japanese law. An order dated May 10, 1943, and effective from June 1, 1943, made military yen the only permissible currency under heavy penalties—the maximum being 15 years of a fine of 50,000 yen. The official rate of conversion was four yen to the dollar, so that while in some sections provision is made for payments under "conversion" as defined in section 2 of the Ordinance, no such provision is made.

Coupled with this, a number of other amendments were made by the defendant, and he was not aware that 60,000 yen was the equivalent of 272,000 dollars, that the payments made by the purchaser did not constitute the true value of the property, the true value being required to comply with Japanese law.

An order dated May 10, 1943, and effective from June 1, 1943, made military yen the only permissible currency under heavy penalties—the maximum being 15 years of a fine of 50,000 yen. The official rate of conversion was four yen to the dollar, so that while in some sections provision is made for payments under "conversion" as defined in section 2 of the Ordinance, no such provision is made.

It is clear that the persons directly concerned in the negotiation of the agreement for sale were the purchaser, the late Mr. P. Y. Woo, his solicitor who represented him, and was included in the defense, and the broker, Mr. Chan Un Chau (an employee of Mr. P. Y. Woo and the broker in the transaction), and Chan Un Chau, the defendant, attended the hearing. It is clear that the parties in the early negotiations before Mr. P. Y. Woo's arrest by the Japanese—the date of which was variously described as March 1943, April 1943, and May 1943—had evidence that the price offered by the purchaser was 60,000 yen with an advance of 50,000 yen. He said P. Y. Woo, but the third witness, the plaintiff, denied that the dollar equivalent Chan Un Chau gave evidence that the offer, prior to Mr. P. Y. Woo's arrest, was 272,000 yen with a brokerage of 32,000 yen. It was agreed that the price should be paid in dollars although this was prohibited by Japanese law, and he would not have signed the agreement if he had not thought the price was to be paid in dollars, or if he had thought that the purchase price was insufficient to discharge the mortgages.

### ASKED TO TAKE YEN

Dealing with the payment of the advance of 50,000 yen on the day the agreement was signed, he explained that Koo Wan Sing said he had no dollars and asked him (Chan Un Chau) if he had any. Chan Un Chau asked Mr. P. Y. Woo if he would accept and Mr. P. Y. Woo advised him to do so saying "You must accept, otherwise you will get into trouble." Koo Wan Sing said nothing. Chan Un Chau apparently regarded Koo Wan Sing's silence as silence because he had heard that Koo Wan Sing's firm had been involved in the Japanese secret service plots of 1937-1938, and, by implication, thought Koo Wan Sing had influence with the Japanese. Chan Un Chau said he accepted the bank draft, the exchange being in yen without anything being said—the implication being that he continued under the duress alleged in connection with the first payment.

He allowed the evidence of the alleged secret agreement or representation that the purchase price would be paid in dollars to be given, but on the basis that it might disclose some ground on which the defendant might be able to resist the equitable remedy of specific performance, having regard to the fact that the evidence, however, was of the clear opinion that the written agreement was the only agreement between the parties, and that if any question of payment in dollars had arisen prior to the signing of the agreement, it had been abandoned. When the agreement was signed,

would have operated to divest the legal estate.

No doubt the mortgagor would have remained liable on his personal covenant, terminably with section 3, but the alienation of frauds was not withdrawn. This being so, why should the purchaser, any more than the vendor, be willing to defy the Japanese? (Is it a question of豪華 or heavy fine?) And if the parties were prepared to run the risk, why did they not show the purchase price in dollars in the agreement since it was not withdrawn? The parties as opposed to the Japanese assignment, would have to be shown to the Japanese? The assignment in English form was for the payment of the purchase price, and the purchaser would have an interest to have the purchase price expressed in dollars, but since this document was executed when not for Japanese eyes, who were the vendor prepared to acknowledge payment in yen?

### NO FRUSTRATION

What was the payment of the purchase price accepted in yen—was it paid in cash or by draft? Durian and undue influence are alleged but even Chan Un Chau's evidence that as I have indicated I am not prepared to accept him as complete and reliable in evidence of undue influence. Mr. P. Y. Woo gave the parties legal advice that they clearly knew what they signed (agreement for sale) and Koo said nothing. Then again, if the purchaser had been guilty of the dishonesty alleged why is it that the defendant, himself, a very experienced lawyer, was willing to pass unchallenged a statement in Koo Un Chau's letter of October, 1943, that the price was "50,000 yen in military notes equivalent to 272,000 in Hongkong currency" and why is it that neither defendant nor his attorney (or a lawyer) ever put in writing the allegation that the purchase price should have been paid in dollars until May, 1948?

### NO FRUSTRATION

In so far as the sale of his property is involved, apart from the question of the mortgages, nothing has happened to change the vendor's position, to pay off the mortgages out of the purchase price and possibly he would not have made the agreement if he had contemplated this. I regard respect for the law as fundamental as to be regarded by the law both as striking at the root of the agreement, and as entirely beyond what was contemplated by the parties when they entered into the agreement.

### TWO ARGUMENTS

This brings me to two arguments put forward by Mr. d'Almada for the defendant which may conveniently be considered together. They are the reason of the operation of sections 3 and 4 of the Debtor and Creditor (Occupation Period) Ordinance, 1948.

Mr. d'Almada argued that the term of the agreement for sale for mortgage practice as solicited by the vendor to get to the bottom of this and then out

to get the purchase money, but terms are only to be implied in agreements which necessarily so demand, and are unable to agree that there was an implied term in this case.

Given that there was no implied term, Mr. d'Almada's argument is weakened, but I still consider his second line of approach, which is that sections 3 and 4 are provisions operating in a way as to affect the very root of the agreement.

His first preliminary point was that the agreement was never terminated.

His second preliminary point was that the agreement for sale was frustrated by the Ordinance, the whole agreement to be at an end. He referred to Donny, Mot. d'Almada, L. V. James, 1944, A.C. 203, 1.

He agreed on this point. His second preliminary point was that section 3 is not retrospective to cover the mortgage debt in this case, and I agree also on this point. The way is thus clear for Mr. d'Almada's main contention and I have no objection to it, and it will do in fact strike at the root of the agreement and so frustrate it.

I did not understand Mr. d'Almada to contend that performance of the agreement was impossible (given that there was no implied term as alleged) and I do not think that there was in fact any impossibility in the agreement. There is a clause in the Ordinance to prevent a little free from encumbrances from being given now if the mortgage debt is discharged in the rate of exchange as provided for in the Ordinance. No reason has been given why the agreement could not have been specifically performed before the Ordinance on certain terms of discharge of the mortgages by the payment of the debt in yen, in fact made. Once the legal estate had, under the then existing law, been got in from the mortgages and the property brought to the purchaser, I do not think section 11

would have operated to divest the legal estate.

The students distributed protest pamphlets outside the cinema, standing in front of gaudy billboards showing virtually nude white women being "sacrificed to Buddha."

The students objected to the film itself and its advertising.

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## SATURDAY'S LEAGUE CRICKET

By "RECODER"

## RECREIO TAKE A REST

Club de Recreio, who lead the First Division of the Cricket League, have a relatively easy prospect of it at King's Park tomorrow against Royal Navy, while Army, closest challengers, should be out at Kai Tak taking on the RAF. No confirmation could be obtained this morning as to whether the latter match is on. If it is, Army face a hurdle in the championship race that will not be an easy one.

At King's Park, Recreio batting will face relatively good bowling from Hart and White but the Navy batting can hardly be expected to do as well as Recreio and the chances are that the match will be very one-sided.

It is anybody's guess what is going to happen at Cox's Path where Optimists travel to meet the KCC. The home team are a more balanced and spirited organization than they were in early season and are unpredictable when there is big game to slaughter.

At Chater Road, however, I see little less than a devastating victory for the Scorpions. There is an outside chance that Billimoria and Crabtree, both on their best form if they can manage it, may cut down on the winning margin.

Crabtree's batting is in a bad way. Souza, Ranchand and J. R. Irano could possibly stand up to whoever will bowl for the Scorpions, but it isn't every day that all three can "click."

Look out for the lowest score of the season.

University are at home to IHC at Pokfulam and this match is likely to develop into the same type of thriller that saw University win by four runs last November.

The undergraduates, who are used to facing J. C. Koh at the nets, will

not be overawed by Minu. Their batting, even without Gurnu, is likely to knock up as much against IHC bowling as IHC, if uncomfortable against Koh, on a matting wicket, are likely to score in their turn.

Let Koh really get busy as he did against the Navy and we will see IHC in a rare mess. I would suggest opening the bowling with Koh and Professor Ride, and leaving it to Lean and Teh to take care of the tail if there is any left after that.

## BIG MATCH

The big match of the week is the Intra-Club affair at Chater Road on Sunday between the Scorpions and the Optimists.

Neither team was able to manage a win in the two League matches in which Scorpions and Optimists met and this is a deciding fixture, starting at 11 a.m. to permit time enough for the bowlers to work on the two most difficult-batting sides to dismiss cheaply.

The teams will be:

Scorpions: T. A. Pearce (Captain), O. J. Kerr, M. Newton, I. N. MacLeod, D. H. Leach, H. Owen-Hughes, G. B. Gibbons, A. P. Woir, E. F. Gee, J. D. Clague and A. N. Other.

Optimists: L. D. Kilbee (Captain), A. S. Eason, N. R. Oliver, M. Wood, W. J. Slaughter, N. E. Arthy, G. T. Rowe, K. A. Miller, D. McLellan, R. W. Franklin and F. Thorpe.

## Sellout Crowd For Thomas Cup Final

Preston, England, Feb. 24.—Sellout crowds of 2,000 fans will witness the finals of the Thomas Cup World Badminton Tournament on Friday and Saturday nights between Malaya and Denmark.

"Every seat and every foot of standing room has gone", said one of the hosts, "and we could have sold another 2,000 seats on Saturday. Many persons travelling long distances will have to be turned away."

Both teams have settled into this cotton manufacturing town in Lancashire and had a look at the arena, a new swimming bath. The pool has been covered over and will serve as the court.

The Malayans, Pacific Zone representatives who eliminated the United States by 6 matches to 3 in the semi-finals this week at Glasgow, travelled over to Blackpool today for a civic reception and some breath of sea air.

The defeated Yanks stopped here en route to London for the English open Badminton championships to see the struggle for the big cup presented by Sir George Thomas. This is the first competition for it.

## CIVIC RECEPTION

Friday, all three teams—Malayans, Danes and Americans—will be guests of the Preston Mayor, Mr Alderman Robert Ainsworth, at a civic reception and luncheon.

Lim Chuan-geok, non-playing captain and manager of the Malayans, talked with the same quiet confidence as when he arrived in London with his team from Singapore last December.

## Softball League Standings

## SENIOR LEAGUE

| (Unofficial) |      |           |       |       |
|--------------|------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Won          | Lost | Per cent. | Goals | Goals |
| Canadians    | 10   | 2         | 83.3  | 100   |
| Saints       | 13   | 3         | 81.3  | 100   |
| VIC          | 14   | 4         | 77.8  | 100   |
| Malayans     | 14   | 6         | 70.0  | 100   |
| IHC          | 9    | 8         | 52.9  | 100   |
| Khalas       | 9    | 8         | 52.9  | 100   |
| Chung Hwa    | 7    | 10        | 41.2  | 100   |
| Overseas     | 6    | 12        | 33.3  | 100   |
| Philippines  | 5    | 12        | 29.4  | 100   |

## JUNIOR LEAGUE

| Won        | Lost | Per cent. | Goals | Goals |
|------------|------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Braves     | 12   | 1         | 92.3  | 100   |
| Jaguars    | 12   | 1         | 92.3  | 100   |
| Mohawks    | 7    | 7         | 46.2  | 100   |
| Blackhawks | 4    | 8         | 33.3  | 100   |
| Rexes      | 3    | 9         | 27.3  | 100   |
| Vikings    | 3    | 9         | 27.3  | 100   |
| Rangers    | 3    | 10        | 25.0  | 100   |
| Wildfires  | 0    | 10        | 25.0  | 100   |

## LADIES' LEAGUE

| Won      | Lost | Per cent. | Goals | Goals |
|----------|------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Wildcats | 6    | 1         | 85.7  | 100   |
| Wahoos   | 6    | 2         | 75.0  | 100   |
| Canaries | 4    | 3         | 54.5  | 100   |
| Pirates  | 0    | 9         | 0.0   | 100   |

## BATTING AVERAGES

| Names                  | Goals | 1  | 2  | 3   | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | Ave. |
|------------------------|-------|----|----|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|------|
| I. Eriksen, V.R.C.     | 14    | 54 | 22 | 402 |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |      |
| S. Gutierrez, Madrinas | 14    | 43 | 17 | 396 |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |      |
| C. Baker, Canucks      | 15    | 55 | 29 | 304 |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |      |
| D. Smith, V.R.C.       | 12    | 50 | 14 | 329 |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |      |
| G. Perreira, V.R.C.    | 12    | 49 | 15 | 319 |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |      |
| S. Bucks, Saints       | 13    | 40 | 16 | 317 |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |      |
| R. Sequira, McCaps     | 14    | 46 | 16 | 347 |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |      |
| L. Luis, H.K.C.B.      | 12    | 54 | 16 | 333 |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |      |
| H. Wong, V.R.C.        | 13    | 42 | 14 | 333 |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |      |

## WEEK-END GAMES

Highlighted by the cricket, Canucks-Madrinas Senior Loop play on Sunday, this week-end's softball programme will be:

Senior League, Sunday, At Recreio, 10 a.m. V.R.C. vs. Madrinas, 1 p.m. IHC vs. Billabong, P. C. Wong, scorer, Philo Remedios, 2 p.m. Canucks v. Madrinas Umpires, Ching Figueiredo, Ingmar Eriksen, Fred Dill, scorer, Philo Remedios, 2 p.m. IHC vs. Ching Figueiredo, 3 p.m. Saints (Umpires: "Doc" Mollien, Nugget Ebrahim, Edo Almeda; scorer, IHC Wing Leel), 2 p.m. Khalas v. HKCC Umpires, Dick Chung, P. C. Wong, S. C. Wong, scorer, Miss Terry Baptista.

Junior Loop, Saturday, At Recreio, 2 p.m. Rangers v. Jaguars (Umpires, Philo Remedios, Robby Lopez, Samir), 3 p.m. Blackhawk v. Vikings (Umpires, Philo Remedios, Tony Holland, Philo Remes), left-by-air today, accompanied by diving stars, for an exhibition tour of Indo-China.—Reuter.

## WORLD RECORD

Copenhagen, Feb. 24.—Miss Gretta Andersen, Danish Olympic swimming champion, tonight bettered the women's world record for 100 yards free style.

Swimming unspun, she returned in a time of 58.2 seconds, compared with the official record of 59.4 seconds set up in 1944 by her compatriot, Miss F. Nathansen.—Reuter.

## Indo-China Tour

Paris, Feb. 24.—Alex Jany, French, European and world champion short distance swimmer and record-holder, left-by-air today, accompanied by diving stars, for an exhibition tour of Indo-China.—Reuter.

Ladies Circuit, Saturday, At Recreio, 4 p.m. Vikings v. Pirates (Umpires, Bill Silva, Frankie Correa, Olle Vas), Reuter.

## Mister Conquest



## UP &amp; IN



Don Heathington, spark plug for the Baylor Bears, scrambles up to drop the egg in the basket. Don stands six feet three inches and once scored 64 points in a high school game. A junior, Heathington led the Bears to runner-up honours in the NCAA last season.

## SINGAPORE'S ONE-MAN OLYMPIC TEAM

## LLOYD VALBERG HOPES TO HURDLE AT HELSINKI

By MILTON MARMOR

The lanky fireman who marched so proudly into Wembley Stadium last summer as Singapore's one-man Olympic Team says he's "had it" as a high jumper.

But the 27-year-old Lloyd Valberg is not through with track and field. The tall athlete who finished eighth in the high jump at the 1948 London Games plans to concentrate from now on the high hurdles and the hop, step and jump.

And he intends to be in the grand parade at Helsinki in 1952. Valberg says he fears he is through as a high jumper.

"I have lost confidence that I'll ever clear 6 feet 6 inches, a height I once considered quite easy," he said resignedly as he sat at his desk in the Singapore Harbour Fire Brigade office.

Valberg used the "belly roll," or the "barrel roll" as it is sometimes called, to set a Singapore record of 6 feet 3 inches.

That's not a startling mark by American standards, but it's a fine leap for a fellow who had to take a year off from his job and never had any real coaching or training opportunities.

## BARREL ROLL

Strangely enough, Valberg is completely "over the barrel" in the semi-diving style that permitted Les Steers of the United States to set the world record of 6 feet 11 inches. Many track scholars have always said that the first man to clear 7 feet outdoors will get over the bar with this awkward-looking method of straddling face downward.

With the barrel roll the jumper throws his leading leg over the bar and drags the trailing leg along later.

Perfect timing is the absolute essential here. Usually, the failure is caused by the trailing leg tapping the cross-bar at the last moment.

That's what has happened to Valberg's high jumping. He became discouraged and reached the conclusion that the barrel is played out.

## EASTERN CUT-OFF

"At the Olympic games," he recalled, "only one other jumper, an American, used this method. Most of the others used only the Western roll or the Eastern cut-off."

The American in question happened to be George Stanich, the University of California at Los Angeles youngster who is looked upon in the United States as the most serious threat to Steers' world mark.

Stanich failed dismally at Wembley, although in subsequent European meets he did better than 6 feet 6.

John Winters, of Australia, the Olympic champion at 6 feet, employed the more orthodox method.

Mills, who knocked out Ralph last November,ights Woodcock for the British heavyweight title in London on June 2.—Associated Press.

## CERDAN-TURPIN

London, Feb. 24.—It was learned today that Marcel Cerdan, the

## • FOR YOUR SPARE MOMENTS •

## • MCKENNEY ON BRIDGE

Shrewd Layoff Shuts Out Dummy

|                     |            |       |      |
|---------------------|------------|-------|------|
| ♦ AK 10 9 5         | ♦ Q 3      |       |      |
| ♦ 3 2               | ♦ 10 7 0   |       |      |
| ♦ Q 0 0 5 4         | ♦ K Q 0 7  |       |      |
| ♦ J 1 0             | ♦ 0 0 3 4  |       |      |
| Declarer            |            |       |      |
| ♦ J 4               | ♦ A 10 5 3 |       |      |
| ♦ A K J             | ♦ K Q 7 2  |       |      |
| Rubber—Neither vul. |            |       |      |
| South               | West       | North | East |
| 1 ♦                 | Pass       | 1 ♠   | Pass |
| 2 N.T.              | Pass       | 3 ♠   | Pass |
| 3 N.T.              | Pass       | Pass  | Pass |
| Opening—            | ♦ 5        |       |      |

BY WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY

THERE is nothing I enjoy more than an evening of bridge with "Mother" Greenough. "Mother" Greenough, I must explain, is Mrs Edmee Busch Greenough of New York City, the mother of Curt H. Heslin, who took over the secretaryship of the American Contract Bridge League when I retired.

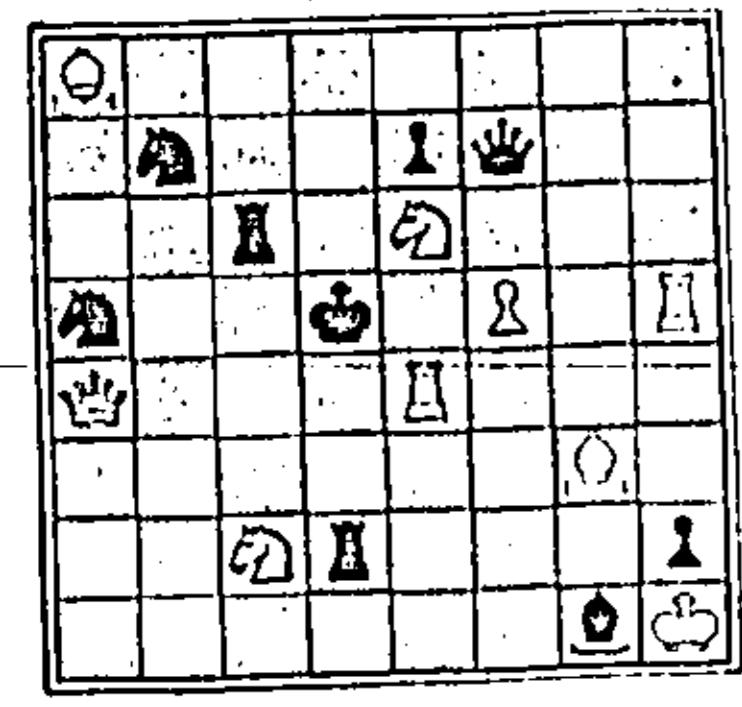
The other night Mrs Greenough and I were playing against Mrs McKenney and Mrs Ethel Leyev, the former Mrs George M. Cohen. "Mother" loves to pull a quick one on you, and she certainly did that in today's hand.

Against three no-trump contract, I opened my fourth best heart. Declarer won with the Jack of hearts, then led the Jack of spades. The five-spot was played from dummy, and without a moment's hesitation, Mrs Greenough played the three.

Now declarer felt quite confident that she had located the queen of spades in my hand, so she led the four of spades and finessed dummy's nine-spot. Mrs Greenough raked this trick in with the queen, and you can see what happened. Declarer found herself shut out of dummy. Before the smoke cleared away, we had set our opponents three tricks—just because Mrs Greenough had the nerve and poise that were needed to stay off the first spade trick.

## CHESS PROBLEM

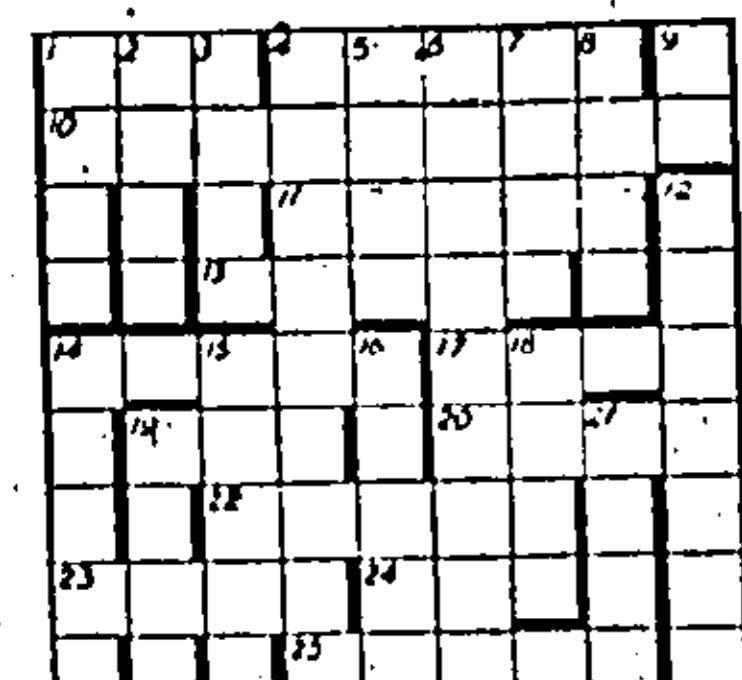
By A. E. ELWORTHY



White to play and mate in two  
Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. Q—QB8, any; 2, R (dis ch. or dis ch. B, or Kt mates).

## CROSSWORD



Across  
1. Red apple is not ripe. (3)  
4. Bare goats for the choir of Pope Gregory. (3)  
11. It's a going colour. (3)  
12. A crowd! (5)  
17. It has to be developed to be made useful. (5)  
19. The ruler. (3)  
20. It may be record. (3)  
22. Could he tame? (3)  
23. It's situated. (4)  
24. Funny, but it's always in drinking water. (3)  
25. Proceeded inwards. (5)

Down

1. Found in frog repositories. (4)  
2. You'll find him in a bar. (4)  
3. The strongest part of a castle. (4)  
4. Annoy. (3)  
5. It's a change from rope anyway. (3)  
6. Pride sent him to this office. (3)  
7. There is no truth in them. (4)  
8. American bull? (3)  
9. Wall support. (3)  
14. An old car of corn. (6)  
15. Hollywood's newest such value on the screen. (3)  
16. The language of ancient Rome. (3)  
18. A gunneman's side-arm. (4)  
19. Birth and safety. (4)  
21. Anybody over that could be an onlooker. (4)

## DUMB-BELLS

REGISTERED U.S. PATENT OFFICE



## UNUSUAL ANGLES:

## JAP KIDS LIKE TO PLAY DEATH BY HANGING'

By ERNEST HOBRECHT

There have been changes in the kinds of names Japanese children are playing at these days.

Of course, they still go in for flying kites that look like fish, the lads had ever heard, I asked what that really rings the bell with Nipponese youth now. Best of all, they like "Ko-shu-kei."

That's Japanese and it means "death by hanging."

The game is of recent origin, the idea coming from the hanging at Sugamo prison of Hideki Tojo and six others.

The name of the game dates back to the last day that the International Military Tribunal for the Far East was in session. As the defendants stood in the dock, the Tribunal president read the sentences. Some of the Japanese war criminals got prison terms and some were sentenced to "Ko-shu-kei"—"death by hanging."

I first discovered the popularity of the game when I was taking a walk through the residential section of Tokyo and came upon a group of children who might have been playing "cowboy and rustler."

Two "dirty-nosed" kids about eight years old were throwing a rice-straw rope over the limb of a cherry tree.

One of the boys grabbed his throat and made horrible sounds, then he shook his head to indicate such things never happen the way they play "Ko-shu-kei."

Wondering if the game were confined to my neighbourhood, I mentioned it to some Japanese newspapermen.

"No," they said, practically in chorus. "All our kids are playing it."

There is no telling how long it will be popular. A few rope burns on a few necks have not detracted much from the game.

Perhaps the little fellows in each neighbourhood will get tired of being "Tojo" one of these days and will refuse to be hanged. But for the present it is the rage.

My Japanese newspaper friends claim it is even more popular than "playing war" and "shooting Americans" used to be.

If the Chinese don't like what the Communists offer they will reject it," she said.

She doubted that the Communists would cross the Yangtze except to take Nanking. If the Communist regime proved successful in the north it would gradually absorb South China. However, if the regime proved an economic failure, China would be split up into warlord-ruled sectors.—United Press.

She said that the man who threw the bone at her dog was shabbily dressed, one trouser-leg being almost transparent.

(News item.)

PEOPLE who live in glass trousers shouldn't throw bones.

## Answers

1. The white.
2. On the guillotine.
3. Because the Alps temper the cold air from the north.
4. Krakow.
5. North America, South America and Africa.
6. No, she was strictly neutral.

Nothing to do with me

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(News item.)



## BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

## Willy Went to Buy a New Bed

—But He Saved Money by Finding an Egg Shell—

By MAX TRELL

KNARF, the shadow-boy with the turned-about name, came into the playroom and sat down beside his sister Handi.

"Where have you been all afternoon?" Handi asked her brother.

"It's certainly cold outside," Knarf answered.

"That isn't the question I asked you," said Handi. "I'd like to know where you were all afternoon."

"Because it's so cold outside," Knarf said. "I was helping Willy Toad get himself bed to sleep in. He doesn't like being awoken when it's cold. He decided to go to sleep all winter and not wake up until the spring when it's warm again. So I had to help him find a bed. It wasn't very easy."

Not Hard at All

"What was hard about it?" Handi wanted to know. "All he had to do was go to a store and buy one."

Knarf sighed. "That's what I told Willy. He thought it was a very good idea. So we both went to town and when we came to a store that sold beds, we went inside. I'd like to say we found a nice, comfortable bed with a lot of blankets on it," Willy told the man. "I'm going to sleep all winter long." The man said he didn't have any beds for toads—just for people. Then we went to another store that sold couches and hammocks."

"And did Willy buy a couch or a hammock?" Handi asked. "The man in the store said he would be

glad to sell Willy a couch or a hammock. Willy picked a nice, big soft couch. Then the man asked Willy where he should send it. Willy said: "There's a little hole under a rock just at the foot of the elm tree near the ditch that runs into the pond. You won't have any trouble finding it at all. All you have to do is lift up the stone and slide the couch into the hole."

"When the man heard this, he was astonished. He said he was quite sure he wouldn't be able to find the place that Willy meant, and because he knew that the couch would never fit in the hole under the stone. 'You'd better get something much smaller to sleep on,' he told Willy. 'Perhaps an empty egg shell or an old cigar box.' So Willy hopped out of the store quite angry."

"What did Willy do then?" Handi inquired, quite eager to know what finally happened.

Good Idea

"Willy got to thinking about what the man in the store said," Knarf went on, "and the more he thought about the empty egg shell, the better he liked it. It took quite a good deal of looking around before we found an empty egg shell, but at last we did. Then I had to carry it to the rock at the foot of the elm tree near the ditch that runs into the pond."

"By this time Willy was so sleepy that he could hardly keep his eyes open. I lifted the rock and slid the egg shell down the hole. Then I laid the egg shell with soft moss to take the place of a mattress and a pillow and put Willy in it. Then I covered him over with a blanket of leaves and said: 'Good-night, Willy. Sleep tight all through the winter.' He was already fast asleep when I put the rock back on top of the hole and tiptoed away."

Hand smiled. She was very glad her brother Knarf had put Willy Toad to bed (even in an empty egg shell) for the winter.

## Rupert's Elfin Bell—20



Things have happened so quickly that Rupert and Bill still feel bewildered. The log gets in their eyes and down their throats, they find themselves being helped into a strange little car that's heading on the road. "Catch hold of that hand!" the Elf said, "or it will control you!" "Well," continued Knarf, "the man in the store said he would be

glad to sell Willy a couch or a hammock. Willy picked a nice, big soft couch. Then the man asked Willy where he should send it. Willy said: "There's a little hole under a rock just at the foot of the elm tree near the ditch that runs into the pond. You won't have any trouble finding it at all. All you have to do is lift up the stone and slide the couch into the hole."

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Toad to bed (even in an empty egg

shell) for the winter.

## BRONCHO BILL

Answer on the Jaw



By Harry F. O'Neill



## FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

## Marshall Aid May End Before 1952

## SPEEDY EUROPEAN RECOVERY WOULD MAKE IT UNNECESSARY

Washington, Feb. 24.—President Truman raised the possibility today that Marshall European recovery plan aid could be discontinued sooner than expected because it was succeeding so well.

Mr. Truman's news conference statement was prompted by a report by Mr. Christopher Mayhew, British Under Secretary of State, that Britain's economic recovery was nearly complete.

The President's remarks about the Marshall programme came when a reporter referred to Mr. Mayhew's optimistic report to the United Nations Economic and Social Council yesterday.

The reporter wanted to know if Mr. Truman felt it necessary now to continue "pouring" Marshall Plan funds into Britain.

President Truman replied that he was happy to hear of Britain's reported economic advances, but that he had no first hand information about it.

He said that, if Mr. Mayhew's statement proved correct, the Marshall Plan might not have to be continued for the full four years.

However, he quickly added that he thought the programme should remain in operation until its goal of recovery in Western Europe was assured. If that took four years, he said, the programme would undoubtedly be continued for that time.—United Press.

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# AUSTERITY ECONOMIC POLICY FOR JAPAN

## Outlined By Finance Minister

Tokyo, Feb. 24.—The Finance Minister, Mr Hayato Ikeda, in an exclusive interview today outlined a "get tough with labour" economic policy which, he said, was designed to remove Japan as a burden on the American taxpayer as quickly as possible.

"The year 1949 will be a year of austerity for the Japanese people," he said.

The Minister claimed that inflation is "now under control and steadily being overcome."

He said the present credit control and channelling of money into rehabilitation and productive enterprises will remain in force.

Mr Ikeda said the Japanese budget for the 1949-50 fiscal year had been prepared as closely as possible to the general pattern of the Allies' nine-point economic stabilisation programme which he praised as the "only logical way" to overcome Japan's current financial difficulties.

### RED "FORTUNE TELLER"

Mr Ikeda is the first post-war Japanese Finance Minister to enjoy a clear majority in the national legislature. He was asked to comment on the recent prediction by the Communist boss, Mr Kyuichiro Tokuda, that the anti-Red Conservative Yoshida government virtually would be thrown out of office within three months.

The Minister declared: "I am afraid that the poor fortune teller will have to renew his predictions every three months—indefinitely."

Mr Ikeda said the Conservatives' landslide victory in the recent national election was proof that the majority of the Japanese people believe in systematic and constructive measures to combat inflation in denunciation of the series of walkouts which certain elements are using to obstruct the economic recovery of Japan."

He outlined three bold measures aimed to cut expenditures in the new budget. A balanced budget is one of the objectives sought in the Allies' nine-point programme.

### THREE POINTS

Mr Ikeda said these three points were:

1. Wholesale dismissal of workers on government payroll which, he admitted, was bound to have the widest repercussions in private industry and the Japanese economic picture in general. Labour agitation against dismissals hitherto had been one of the most potent weapons in the hands of the Japanese Communists. Ikeda said government layoffs may range as high as 30 percent and this may eventually result in overall unemployment in Japan in the neighbourhood of 2,000,000 persons.

2. Elimination of subsidies to maintain the top heavy and large personnel structure of the Japanese railways and State-managed telegraphic-telephonic communications enterprises. Granting these fields "economic independence" would also result in their rationalisation and this would be another bold challenge to the Communists;

3. A 50 percent slash in State subsidies to Japan's export industries

## No Red Herrings For Attlee

London, Feb. 24.—The Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, rejected a suggestion in the House of Commons today that he should introduce anti-Communist legislation on the lines of that in India and France.

He did not think such an amendment either necessary or desirable. Sir Waldron Smithers, Conservative, who had urged the Prime Minister to do this, wondered if Mr Attlee "really means business in his anti-Communist campaign."

Amid loud laughter from all parts of the House, he added: "I am forced to the conclusion that he is a fellow traveller."

Mr Attlee replied: "I don't know whether Sir Waldron has studied the somewhat drastic measures that are being taken by provincial governments in India, and whether he and his party generally support the power to detain without trial in suspicion of subversive activities and a number of other things which are generally regarded as rather dangerous here."

Government cheers greeted this remark.—Reuter.

## Poland Silent On Sydney Stanley

London, Feb. 24.—The Home Secretary Mr Chuter Ede said in the House of Commons today that he had received no word from Poland on his inquiry whether that country would repatriate the deportee, Sydney Stanley.

Stanley, Polish-born Jew, was the centre of the recent British Government corruption hearings and has been ordered to leave the country.

Israel rejected his application for citizenship and Britain has asked Poland to accept him.—Associated Press.

from an estimated 140,000,000,000 yen to 70,000,000,000 yen for the next fiscal year. This means that to survive many export industries will be forced to streamline their management.

**LIFE OF AUSTERITY**

Mr Ikeda said "For the nation to be self-supporting every unit of its economy must be self-supporting. For the government to be self-supporting it must have a balanced budget and to achieve that a great reduction of workers on its payroll is needed."

"Japanese industries must be put on a competitive basis to realise higher efficiency and lower costs."

For each family of Japanese citizens a life of austerity will be required until economic stability has been reached."

The Finance Minister hoped that while Japan will energetically do its part under the nine-point programme, the United States will continue to prime Japan with economic aid "particularly in the form of raw materials."

He said Japan is particularly short in mining equipment, cement and materials needed to rebuild its electric power industry.

Mr Ikeda specified that such aid would "facilitate the quick realisation of a self-supporting Japan, thus serving to reduce the burden on the American people."

He expressed appreciation for the endeavours by General MacArthur and other occupation "higher-ups" which have helped Japanese economy by bringing about a gradual reduction in occupation costs in the Japanese budget.

"A sizeable amount," he said, will be set aside in the new budget for a public works programme—including the road building programme demanded by the Allies—designed to absorb the anticipated unemployment.

But, he said, there will be no dole. "Japan cannot afford such a luxury," he said.—United Press.

## LOVE LIFE CATCHES UP WITH HER

### Mildred Gillars' Admission

Washington, Feb. 24.—Mildred Gillars said tearfully at her trial for treason today that her love for a Nazi radio official got her in the trouble where "I am now fighting for my life."

She said, "Of course I loved him," of the late Professor Max Otto Koelschowitz, who once taught her at New York Hunter College.

Koelschowitz was the man, she said, who played a Svengali role in her wartime Nazi radio career—exerting no hypnotic influence which prompted her to make broadcasts for the German radio.

The U.S. Government contends those broadcasts were treasonable. It convicted Miss Gillars faces the maximum penalty of death, although the Federal Government has never actually executed anyone for treason.

### MAN OF DESTINY

"I consider Koelschowitz, to have been my man of destiny," she said. "I feel if Professor Koelschowitz had not been in my life, I would not be fighting for my life today."

Koelschowitz died in 1944.

Miss Gillars testified about her love life during her second day in the witness stand. Reciting her love for Koelschowitz, she said she also believed that "if you have been happy, you must be prepared at any time for a lifetime of misery." She said also that she came from a "race of people who have been persecuted for 900 years—the Irish."

"We must make this decision on the basis of our own considerations. The Atlantic Pact is to be a voluntary union of free peoples."

### REPLY TO RUSSIA

Dr Lange said Norway's reply to the Soviet Union's last note with the offer of a non-aggression pact was under consideration. It would be given as soon as Parliament next week had had an opportunity to discuss and decide their attitude to the questions raised by the Soviet Union.

"It was stressed both in Washington and London that there was no desire to influence our decision or exert pressure upon us. It is entirely up to us to decide whether we will join at once, wait until the pact is fully prepared, join at a later date or not join at all."

"We must make this decision on the basis of our own considerations. The Atlantic Pact is to be a voluntary union of free peoples."

### THE NEXT HURDLE

The delegation was reported to have returned to Peking yesterday. They were expected to fix or rather to attempt to fix a time and place for the formal peace negotiations between the Chinese Reds and the National Government, and to propose the restoration of all communications between the Communists North and the Nationalist South, paving a way for a cease fire to end the civil war.

The North Shensi broadsheet did not say whether a place and time for the formal peace negotiations had been fixed. At Shihchihchuan, the delegation discussed with the Communist leaders the proposed peace negotiations, the restoration of postal services throughout the country, and the reopening of shipping routes between Nationalist and Communist territory, the Radio said.

A separate Shanghai shipping delegation is said to be concurrently conferring with Communist communications officials in Peking. Reuters learned.—Reuter-AAP.

### SEEKING CONTACT

Washington, Feb. 24.—It was reliably learned that the United States was trying to re-establish communications with the American Consul-General in Mukden. The United Press learned that American officials had been hoping to contact the Consul General, Mr Angus Ward, his wife and eight other Americans.

The State Department spokesman refused to discuss the Mukden situation other than to confirm that no direct word had been received from Mr Ward since November 10.

Prior to the Chinese Communist capture of Mukden, Mr Ward and his staff volunteered to remain no matter what happened. According to last reports, they were not being molested. The State Department said it entertained no fears for their safety.—United Press.

"I wish you'd called earlier. I've already got a date and it's going to be hard to break it."

## POCKET CARTOON



## Pact-Free Alliance Not Practicable

## NORWAY'S ATTITUDE TO THE SCANDINAVIAN PROBLEM

Oslo, Feb. 24.—Dr Halvard Lange, the Norwegian Foreign Minister, told Parliament today that his talks in Washington had convinced the Government that a Scandinavian alliance on a "pact-free" basis was no longer a practical possibility. "Solidarity limited to smaller units and neutral in attitude cannot have the necessary effect of preventing war," he told Parliament.

Dr Lange said that to secure lasting peace the Western European democracies "must be reconstructed economically, socially and culturally through organised and lasting co-operation, and they must be consolidated politically." This must include "defence co-operation on a regional basis," he said.

The Foreign Minister repeated that Norway's security problem was two-fold:

1.—Norway could not be strong enough to scare off or resist aggression by a great power, but must have help; and

2.—To build up defence she must have military supplies from abroad "on an economic basis."

After the Oslo meeting, it was natural for Norway to consider discussing her security problems with the Western democracies.—Reuter.

### China Peace Talks

## BROAD EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

Nanking, Feb. 25.—The Shanghai non-partisan delegation which flew to Peking on February 15 had been in constant conferences with the Communist Mayor of Peking, General Yeh Chien-ying, and others prior to their departure to meet Mr Mao Tse-tung, the Communist leader, Reuter understood today.

The North Shensi Radio reported last night that a broad exchange of views between the Chinese Communists and members of the delegation has been completed at Shihchihchuan, the North China Communist political centre.

Dr Shao Li-tee, Dr W. W. Yen, Mr Kiang Yun, and Mr Chang Ihsu-chao, together with General Fu Tso-yl, and Mr Tung Chao-shan, were reported to have flown to Shihchihchuan on February 22.

The Radio said they conferred with Mr Mao and General Chou En-lai, the top Communist on foreign affairs.

"The big Western democracies, desiring to prevent war, are trying to create stability and a new balance in our part of the world—possibly only on the basis of solidarity and co-operation in the spheres of economics, politics and defence within an area big enough to constitute a real factor in world political powers."

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